

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT	Application #	10/528,833
	Confirmation #	3759
	Filing Date	06/16/2006
	First Inventor	DURANTEL
	Art Unit	1637
	Examiner	Woolwine, Samuel C.
	Docket #	P08599US00/BAS

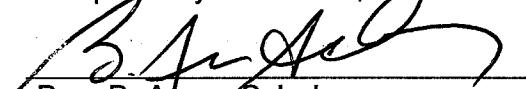
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated May 8, 2008, and without addressing the arguments of the Examiner as stated therein, Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1- 30, drawn to methods of constructing a cell-based hepatitis B virus replication assay. In addition, pursuant to the Examiner's request to provide 2 forward and 2 reverse primers, Applicant further selects as the first set of primers SEQ ID NOS 1 and 13, and as the second set of primers, SEQ ID NOS 15 and 17.

Examination and allowance of the above claims is thus respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


By: B. Aaron Schulman
Registration No.: 31,877

Date: June 3, 2008

STITES & HARBISON PLC ♦ 1199 North Fairfax St. ♦ Suite 900 ♦ Alexandria, VA 22314
TEL: 703-739-4900 ♦ FAX: 703-739-9577 ♦ CUSTOMER NO. 000881